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ED 014 531 VT 000 597

OCCUPATIONS OF OHIO'S VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE GRADUATES.

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REPORT NUMBER OSU-AGDEX-010-008 PUB DATE OCT 65
EDRS PRICE MF-$0.25 HC-$0.32 6P.

DESCRIPTORS- *VOCATIONAL FOLLOWUP, GRADUATE SURVEYS, *VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE, *HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES, FARMERS, OFF FARM AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS,

THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY WAS TO DETERMINE THE OCCUPATIONS OF FORMER VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE STUDENTS. THE STUDY INVOLVED A SURVEY OF 1,315 STUDENTS FROM 88 DEPARTMENTS RANDOMLY SELECTED FROM 15 SUPERVISORY DISTRICTS. THESE STUDENTS WERE OUT OF SCHOOL 1 OR 5 YEARS. MANY SIMILARITIES EXISTED BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS. ONLY 1 PERCENT WERE UNEMPLOYED. NEARLY 60 PERCENT WERE IN FARMING OR OFF-FARM AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS. OF THE 36 PERCENT IN FARMING, 60 PERCENT WERE IN FULL-TIME FARMING, 81 PERCENT ON THE HOME FARM. OF 34 PERCENT OF NONAGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS, THEIR JOBS REQUIRED MECHANICAL COMPETENCE AND GETTING ALONG WITH PEOPLE. OF THE GROUP 1 YEAR OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL, 20 PERCENT WERE IN COLLEGE, HALF OF THOSE IN A COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE. (JM)

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OCCUPATIONS OF OHIO'S VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE GRADUATES

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October, 1965

Approximately 60 per cent of the graduates of vocational agriculture in Ohio, out of school five years, were engaged in farming and farm-related occupations. Only 1 per cent of the graduates was unemployed. These findings were revealed in the most recent of a series of surveys in which the occupations of graduates out-of-school one and five years were identified as of March 1, 1965. A total of 1315 students of 88 departments selected at random from the 15 supervisory districts of vocational agriculture in Ohio were included in the study.

Data in Table I indicate approximately the same number of graduates out of school one year and out of school five years were engaged in farming, (36 per cent). This is a change from the previous surveys where the pattern had indicated that more graduates out of school one year were engaged in farming than those out of school five years. Approximately 60 per cent of those engaged in farming were on a full-time basis. It may be concluded that four of each five (81 per cent) graduates engaged in farming will be doing so on the home farm.

Approximately the same number of graduates were involved in non-agricultural work the first year out of school as compared to those out of school five years, (33 per cent and 34 per cent, respectively).

Graduates of vocational agriculture become engaged in many kinds of work. A large segment of the occupations require aptitude and ability in mechanics. Also, many of the common types of employment involved skills in working with people. This has been the pattern of the occupational opportunities for vocational agriculture graduates of the past several years.

Approximately 20 per cent of the graduates out of school one year were in college. This was an increase over the 18 per cent of the previous year. More than half of the graduates out of school one year attending college were enrolled in the college of agriculture.

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TABLE 1. VOCATIONS OF GRADUATES IN VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN OHIO OUT-OF-SCHOOL ONE AND FIVE YEARS

Vocations as of March 1, 1965	Percentage of Graduates 1964 Class	1960 Class
Farming: Full-time	20.7	23.0
Farming: Part-time	15.2	12.7
Related to Farming	11.4	18.0
Attending College of Agriculture	10.2	6.1
Total in Agriculture	57.5	59.8
Non-Agricultural work	33.0	34.0
College - other than Agriculture	9.5	6.2
Total Non-Agricultural	42.5	40.2
Number of graduates in above analysis	560	529
Other graduates not included in analysis:		
Military Service	68	97
Occupations unknown	20	20
Unemployed	8	6
Deceased	3	4
Total number of graduates	659	656

Based upon responses from 88 schools.

TABLE 2. COMPARISON OF VOCATIONAL STATUS OF GRADUATES IN VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE OUT-OF-SCHOOL ONE YEAR

Vocations	Percentage of Graduates					
	1959 Class	1960 Class	1961 Class	1962 Class	1963 Class	1964 Class
In farming: Full-time	24.6	32.7	30.6	29.8	27.3	20.7
Part-time	24.8	23.3	21.6	19.2	20.0	15.2
Related to farming	9.2	8.6	7.7	11.6	9.3	11.4
Attending College of Agriculture	7.9	6.8	12.9	8.5	8.6	10.2
Total in Agriculture	66.5	71.4	71.3	69.2	65.2	57.5
Non-agricultural work	24.6	18.6	21.0	23.5	24.9	33.0
College - other than Agriculture	8.8	10.0	7.7	7.4	9.9	9.5
Total in non-agriculture	33.4	28.6	28.7	30.8	34.8	42.5
In addition to the above:						
In military service	12.5	11.6	13.5	14.0	11.0	10.4

Above analysis based upon:

1959 - 720 graduates - 108 departments
1960 - 709 graduates - 103 departments
1961 - 736 graduates - 92 departments
1962 - 598 graduates - 84 departments
1963 - 638 graduates - 86 departments
1964 - 659 graduates - 88 departments

TABLE 3. COMPARISON OF VOCATIONAL STATUS OF GRADUATES IN VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE OUT-OF-SCHOOL FIVE YEARS FOR SELECTED YEARS

Vocations	Percentage of Graduates Class 1952	1953	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Full-time			25	25	24	23	24	23
In farming:	45	43						
Part-time			19	18	16	16	15	13
Related to farming	9	9	11	14	12	16	16	18
Attending College of Agriculture	5	3	4	3	2	4	4	6
Total in Agriculture	59	55	59	60	54	59	59	60
Non-agricultural work	37	40	30	36	39	36	37	34
College - other than Agriculture	4	5	6	4	7	5	4	6
Total in non-agriculture	41	45	41	40	46	41	41	40
In addition to the above:								
In military service	21	17	13	10	17	16	17	13

Above analysis based upon:

1952 - 574 graduates - 82 departments
1953 - 565 graduates - 77 departments
1955 - 615 graduates - 108 departments
1956 - 653 graduates - 108 departments
1957 - 568 graduates - 92 departments
1958 - 588 graduates - 84 departments
1959 - 621 graduates - 86 departments
1960 - 656 graduates - 88 departments

Occupations Related to Farming

Eleven to 18 per cent of the graduates in vocational agriculture out-of-school one to five years, were engaged in farm-related occupations. Eighteen of the 86 teachers reporting indicated that one or more of their graduates worked at an elevator or a feed store. The second most common type of work was food processing and marketing. Work in farm machinery sales and services and serving as a butcher were frequently named as kinds of employment. Many other kinds of employment were listed, varying from being a chef to working in the Peace Corps. The complete list with the number of teachers reporting one or more graduates includes:

18 Elevator or feed mill
11 Food processing and marketing
9 Farm implement sales and/or services
8 Butcher
5 Lumberyard
4 Sales man
3 Greenhouses
3 Chef
2 Fertilizer
2 Welding
2 Packing plant
2 Peace Corps
2 Hatchery
1 Care-taker
1 Textile mill
1 Experiment station
1 Agricultural chemist
1 Farm bureau
1 Golf-course
1 Soil service

Occupations in Non-agricultural Work

Approximately 33 per cent of the graduates in vocational agriculture became engaged in non-agricultural occupations during the first five years out of high school. One hundred and fourteen of the graduates were reported as working in industry or in a factory. The number reporting employment in construction, auto mechanics, service station, and truck driving, indicates the importance of the development and use of mechanical skills.

Another general type of work reported was that which included the use of abilities in working with other persons such as salesmen and teaching. The complete list with the number of teachers reporting one or more graduates includes:

114 Industrial or factory	3 Glass Company
34 Mechanic	3 Restaurant
23 Construction	2 Chemical Co.
19 Truckdriver	2 Draftsman
11 Service station	2 Printing
10 Barber	2 Electrician
8 Salesman	2 Plumber
6 Mill worker	1 Newspaper
6 Photography	1 Railroad
5 Teaching	1 Driller
4 Office	1 Policeman
4 Repairman	1 Mechanical School
4 Laborer	1 Sheriff
3 Quarry	1 Junk Yard
3 State Highway	1 J. M. B. Technician
3 Welder	1 Hospital Technician